

House Resolution 1392

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Watson of the 91st, Henson of the 87th, Jacobs of the 80th, Orrock of the 58th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the State of Georgia to offer programs and education for substance abuse defendants;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, at least 75 percent of all crimes have a substance abuse component; and

4 WHEREAS, substance abuse defendants commit and are reconvicted of serious crimes that
5 impact public safety and are a significant fiscal and human resource drain; and

6 WHEREAS, historically, the State of Georgia has had a policy of incarceration and release
7 of substance abuse defendants without treatment; and

8 WHEREAS, seven out of ten substance abuse defendants return to Georgia's prisons; and

9 WHEREAS, the only proven method of significant reduction in this rate of recidivism and
10 reincarceration is education and treatment.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
12 the members of this body urge that the State of Georgia immediately implement the
13 following:

14 (1) Programs and facilities that offer substance abuse education and treatment based on
15 the ten key components promulgated by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. Current
16 programs that meet these proven standards include the Bainbridge Project for men and
17 the Arrendale Center for Women.

18 (2) The programs and facilities would ideally include a broad spectrum to meet the needs
19 of Georgia's communities such as drug courts; day reporting programs, and treatment
20 detention centers.

21 (3) The costs of these programs and facilities will be offset by the proven reduction in
22 the reincarceration and recidivism rates and enhanced public safety.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
2 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Council of Superior
3 Court Judges and the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Corrections.